

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 090555

63
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 XMB-02 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /104 R

66604
DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:JLCOLBERT - EA/J:DFSMITH
EXT. 29369

APPROVED BY C:HSONNENFELDT
EA:LEDMOND (DRAFT) TREASURY (SUBS)
EUR:JAARMITAGE COMMERCE (SUBS)
EB/ORF/FSE:MCREEKMORE E:RMORRIS (SUBS)
EB:JKATZ S/S:JMEALUM
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EXIMBANK

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R 191506Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090555

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: DTR
, ENRG, EEW, UR, JA
SUBJECT: YAKUTSK NATURAL GAS PROJECT

REF: A) TOKYO 4681 B) MOSCOW 4960 C) TOKYO 5016

1. FYI. WE UNDERSTAND FROM PRELIMINARY REPORT THAT DURING
MEETING OF JOINT US-SOVIET COMMERCIAL COMMISSION IN MOSCOW
APRIL 10-11, US REPRESENTATIVE TOLD SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN
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PAGE 02 STATE 090555

TRADE MINISTER ALKHIMOV THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SOVIETS WERE
WAITING TO HEAR FROM GOJ WHETHER JAPAN EXIMBANK LOAN FOR
FIRST STAGE COULD GO THROUGH IF ACCOMPANIED BY CREDITS FROM
PRIVATE US BANKS. HE INFORMED ALKHIMOV THAT IF SOVIDT WERE

TO ARRANGE TO OBTAIN CREDITS FROM PRIVATE US FIRMS FOR EQUIPMENT FOR GAS EXPLORATION STAGE OF YAKUTSK, THIS WOULD NOT NECESSARILY RULE OUT INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER CREDITORS AT LATER STATE. ALKHIMOV REPORTED THAT OCCIDENTAL AND EL PASO HAD ASKED SOVIETS TO DISCUSS WITH THEM PRIVATE CREDITS AMOUNTING TO 100 MILLION DOLLARS, BUT THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAD NOT RECEIVED FINAL WORD FROM THE GOJ. ALKHIMOV SAID SOVIETS HAD IMPRESSION THAT GOJ WANTED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOTH INITIAL AND LATER STAGD . END FYI.

2. IT NOW APPEARS FROM REF C THAT ANZAI MAY HAVE OBTAINED GO AHEAD ON LOAN FROM JAPAN EXIMBANK. IN COURTESY CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON APRIL 17 AMBASSADOR YASUKAWA STATED THAT ACCORDING TO PRIVATE SOURCES IN TOKYO US REP AT COMMISSION MEETING IN MOSCOW HAD ENCOURAGED SOVIETS TO PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENT WITH US FIRMS FOR YAKUTSK PROJECT. YASUKAWA DID NOT, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT JAPAN EXIMBANK LOAN HAD BEEN APPROVED AND DID NOT RPT NOT ASK FORMALLY FOR USG POSITION.

3. EMBASSY MAY INFORM ARAI THAT WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATIONN OF PRIVATE AMERICAN FIRMS IN YAKUTSK GAS EXPLORATION PROJECT WITH JAPANESE AND SOVIETS. WE ANTICI-PATE, HOWEVER, THAT COMPANIES INVOLVED WILL INFORM USG OF FINAL TERMS OF PROJECT BEFORE SIGNING. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT US COMPANIES ARE AWARE THAT THEIR PARTICIPATION IN EXPLORATION PHASE WOULD NOT COMMIT USG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT PHASE OR TO APPROVE LNG IMPORTS FROM YAKUTSK INTO US. USG IS STILL REVIEWING ITS OVERALL POLICY ON LNG IMPORTS.

4. WE PLAN TO REPLY TO INQUIRIES BY JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE ALONG LINES PARA 3. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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